8

ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

PROPHET IBRAHIM (A) & THE BIRDS

SUGGESTED AGES 6+

KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS

GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Kisa Kids Publications
4415 Fortran Court
San Jose, CA 95134
info@kisakids.org
kisakids.org
alkisafoundation.org

Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj). May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Original Author

Brother Alāʾ Jaʿfarī

Acknowledgements

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.
Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah, but we would like to sincerely thank the efforts of Shaykh Salim Yusufali, Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Sarah Ali, Amna Hussain, Zainab Mithani, Zahra Sabur, Sajeda Merchant, Fathema Abidi, Fatemeh Eslami, Kisae Nazar, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Zainab Hussain, and Fatima Hussain. We would especially like to thank Nainawa Publications for their artwork and contributions
May Allah bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for the marḥūmīn of the Talebi family

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *Animals in the Quran* is to strengthen children's understanding of how Allah is All-Powerful and All-Wise, thus strengthening their tawakkul and reliance. We hope that you and your children enjoy these books and use them as a means to achieve this goal, inshāʾAllāh.

We pray to Allah to give us the strength and tawfīq to perform our duties and responsibilities.

With Duʾās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think outside the box by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum and begin their life long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of Darse Khārij from Ḥawzah, Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, growing up in India while now residing in the United States, he has had the honor to meet with various communities and community leaders, and values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials and to create open source platforms so information and resources are available and accessible to all.

* * *

You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family. Share the word, and join the mission.

8

ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

PROPHET IBRAHIM (A) & THE BIRDS

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
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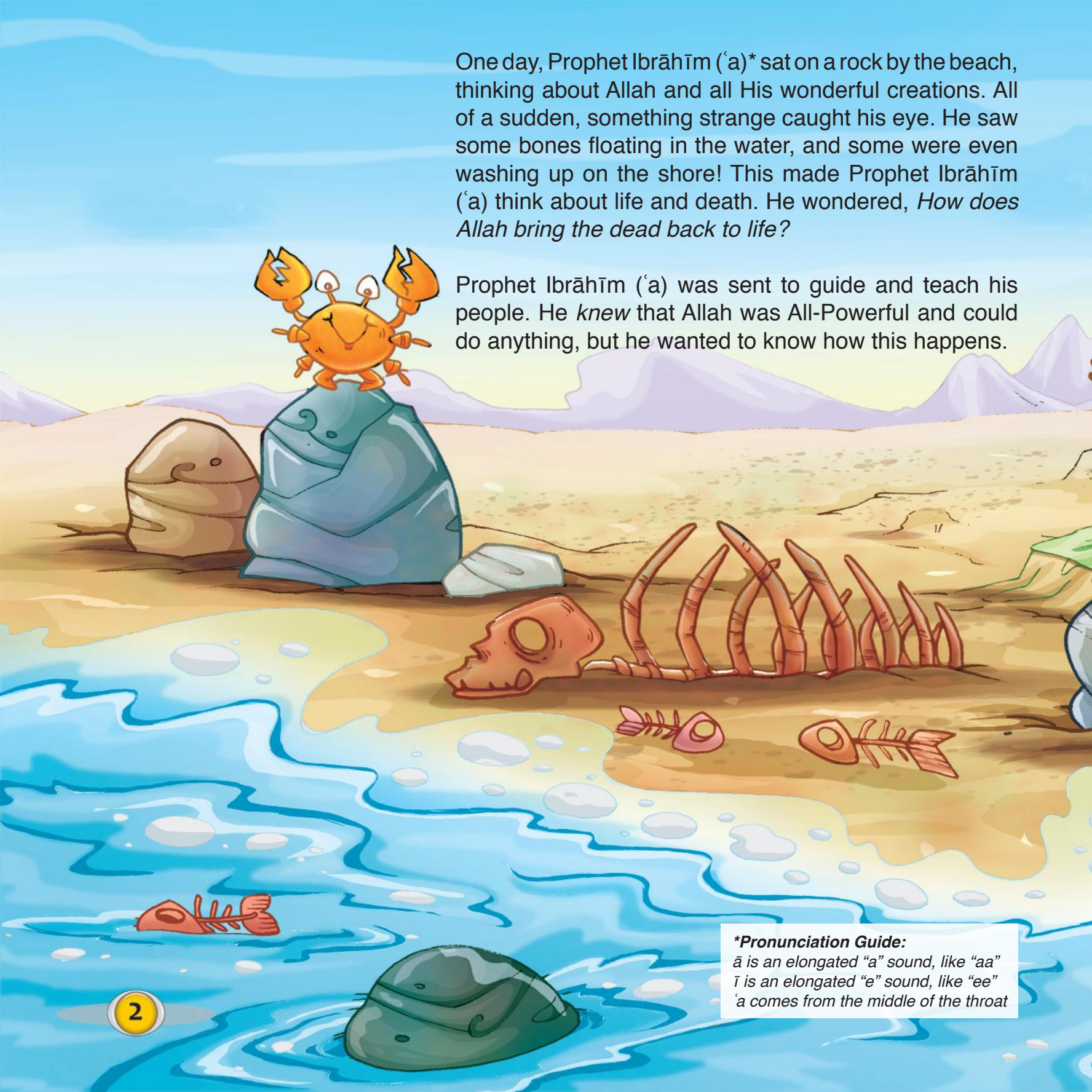
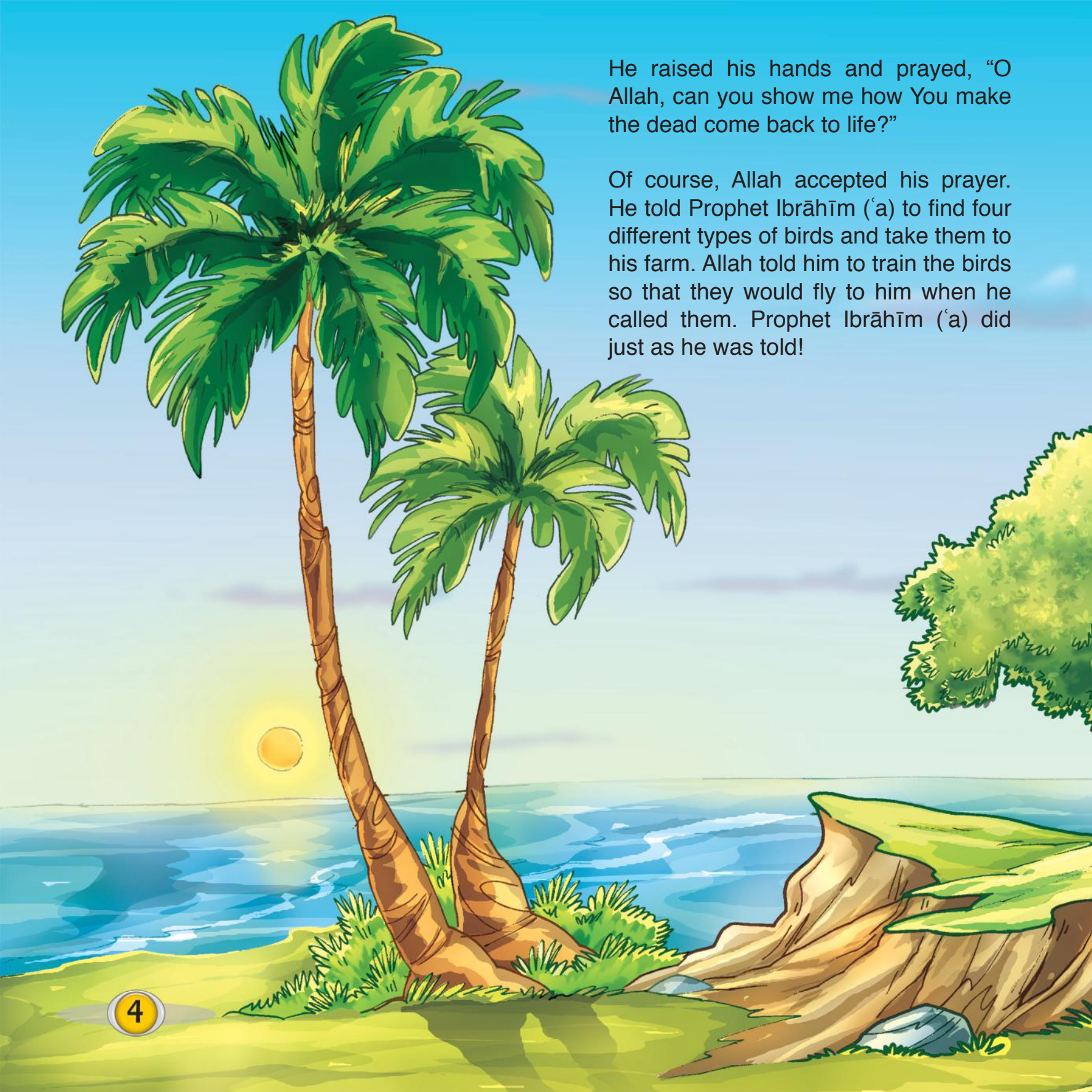
One day, Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa)* sat on a rock by the beach, thinking about Allah and all His wonderful creations. All of a sudden, something strange caught his eye. He saw some bones floating in the water, and some were even washing up on the shore! This made Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) think about life and death. He wondered, *How does Allah bring the dead back to life?*

Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) was sent to guide and teach his people. He *knew* that Allah was All-Powerful and could do anything, but he wanted to know how this happens.

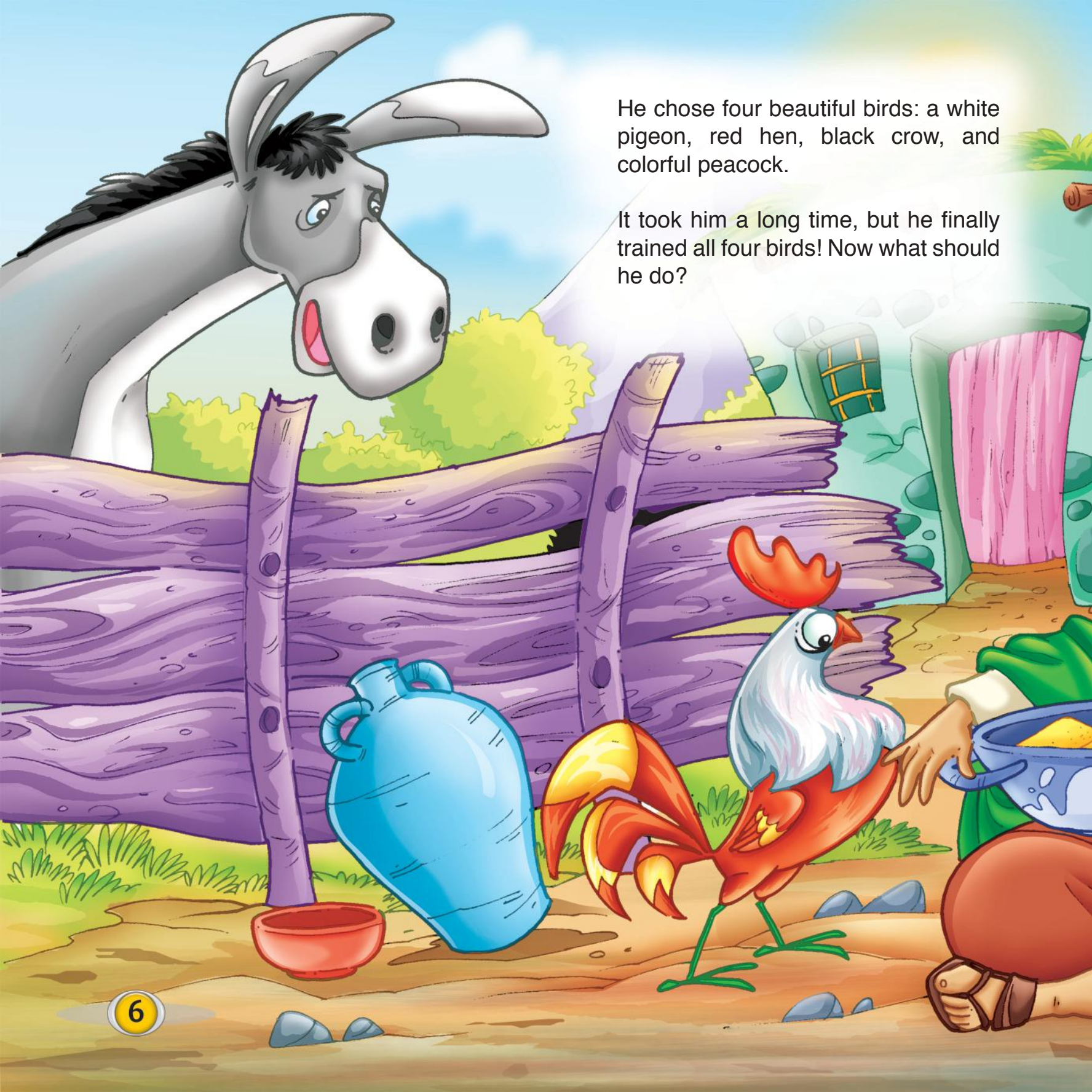


Pronunciation Guide:
ā is an elongated "a" sound, like "aa"
ī is an elongated "e" sound, like "ee"
ʿa comes from the middle of the throat



He raised his hands and prayed, “O Allah, can you show me how You make the dead come back to life?”

Of course, Allah accepted his prayer. He told Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) to find four different types of birds and take them to his farm. Allah told him to train the birds so that they would fly to him when he called them. Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) did just as he was told!

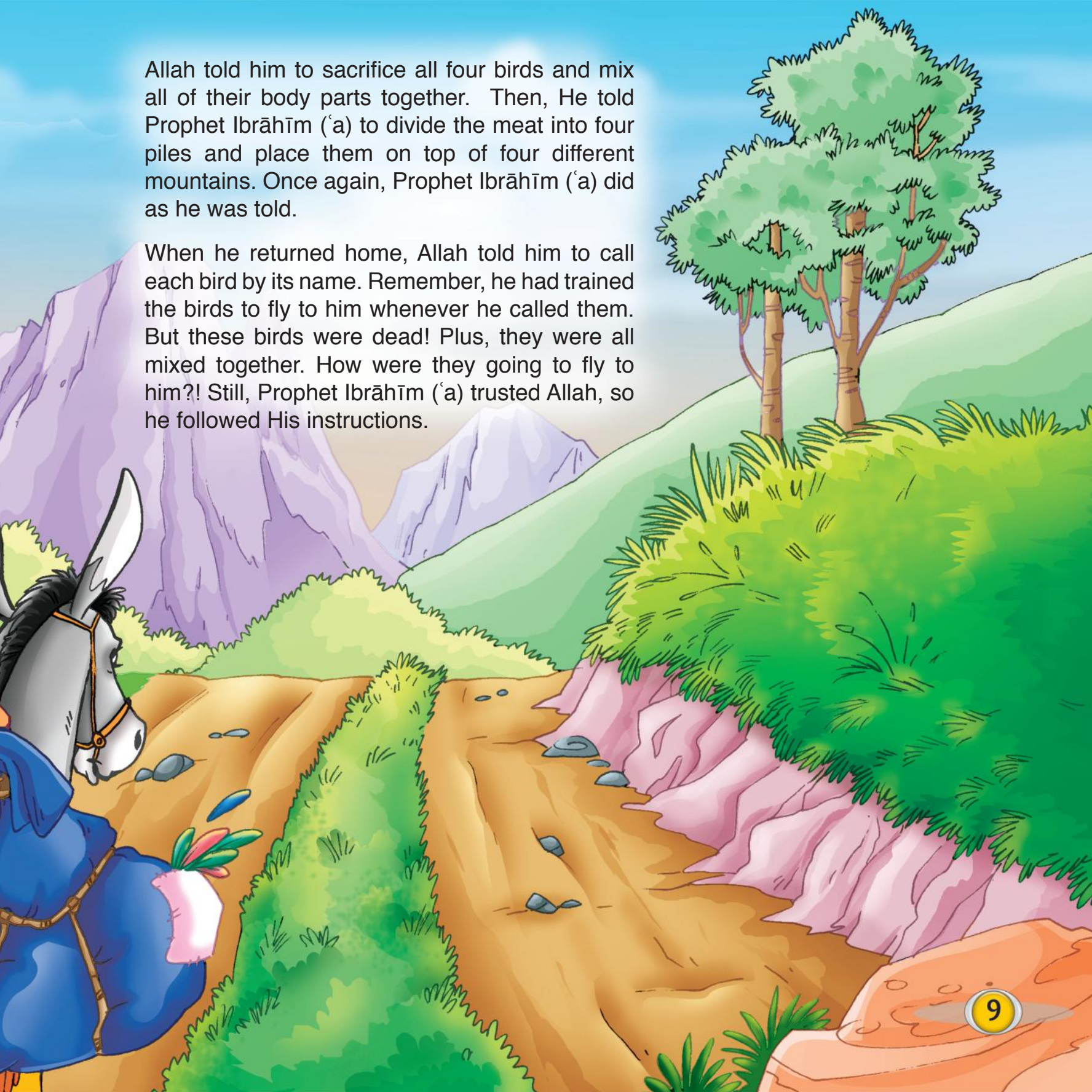


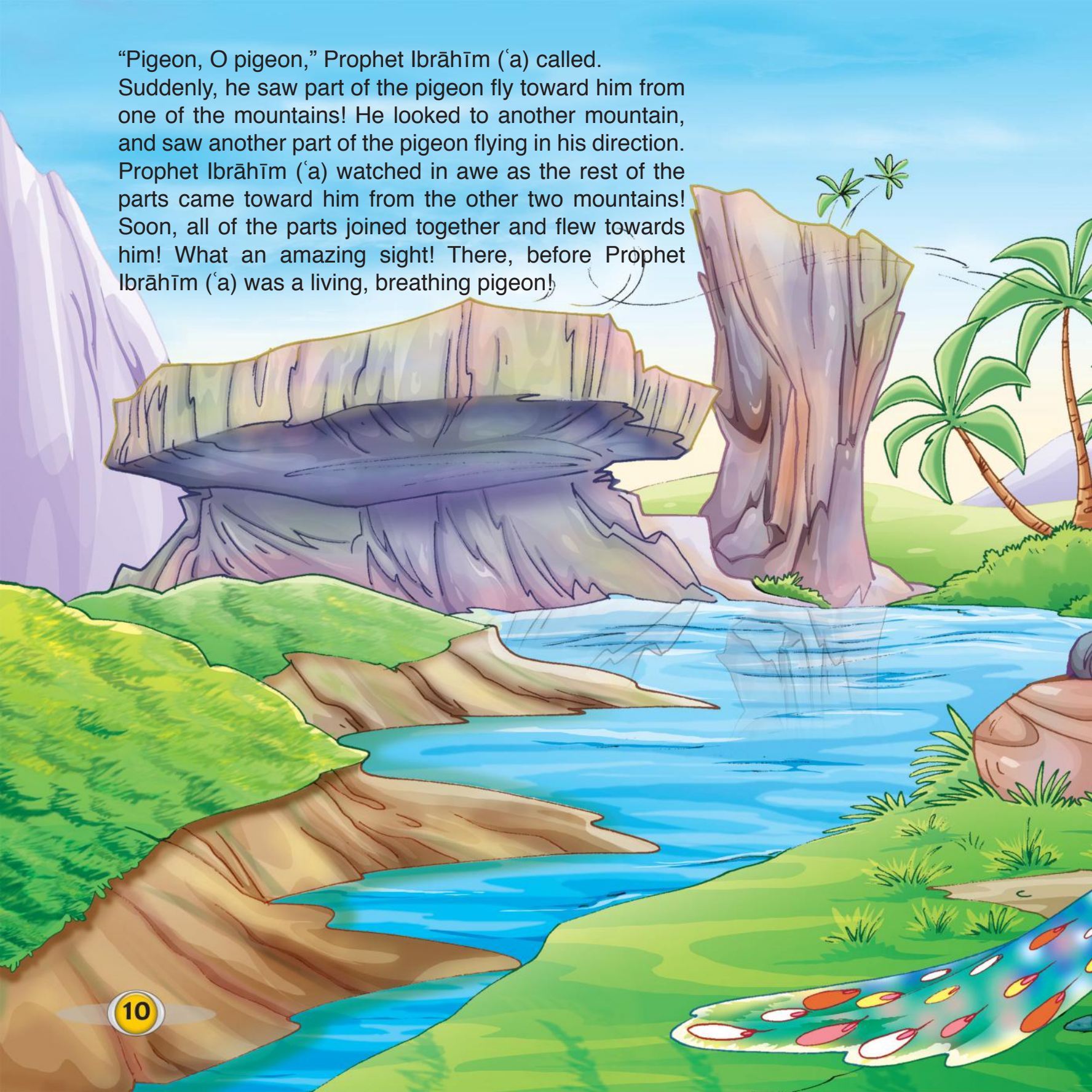
He chose four beautiful birds: a white pigeon, red hen, black crow, and colorful peacock.

It took him a long time, but he finally trained all four birds! Now what should he do?

Allah told him to sacrifice all four birds and mix all of their body parts together. Then, He told Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) to divide the meat into four piles and place them on top of four different mountains. Once again, Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) did as he was told.

When he returned home, Allah told him to call each bird by its name. Remember, he had trained the birds to fly to him whenever he called them. But these birds were dead! Plus, they were all mixed together. How were they going to fly to him?! Still, Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) trusted Allah, so he followed His instructions.





“Pigeon, O pigeon,” Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) called.
Suddenly, he saw part of the pigeon fly toward him from one of the mountains! He looked to another mountain, and saw another part of the pigeon flying in his direction. Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) watched in awe as the rest of the parts came toward him from the other two mountains! Soon, all of the parts joined together and flew towards him! What an amazing sight! There, before Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) was a living, breathing pigeon!

Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) reached out and touched the now living pigeon. One by one, the other birds also came back to life!

Through this miracle, Allah showed Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) how He brings even the most broken and scattered bodies back to life! *SubḥānAllāh!** Allah truly is *All-*Powerful!

***Pronunciation Guide:**
ḥ is a heavy "ha" sound that comes from the middle of the throat

Family Time

وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ رَبِّ أَرِنِي كَيْفَ تُحْيِ الْمَوْتَىٰ ...قَالَ فَخُذْ أَرْبَعَةً مِّنَ الطَّيْرِ فَصُرْهُنَّ إِلَيْكَ ثُمَّ اجْعَلْ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ جَبَلٍ مِّنْهُنَّ جُزْءًا ثُمَّ ادْعُهُنَّ يَأْتِينَكَ سَعْيًا ۚ وَاعْلَمْ أَنَّ اللَّـهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

And [remember] when Ibrāhīm said, "My Lord, show me how how you give life to the dead." ... [Allah] said, "Take four birds and train them [to know you]. Then, [after slaughtering them] put a portion of them on each hill; then, call them — they will come [flying] to you quickly. And know that Allah is the All-Mighty, the All-Wise." (2:260)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

When reading and learning about stories from the Qurʾān, it is important for us to reflect upon the lessons they teach us. In order to help your child internalize the lessons from this story, discuss the following questions:

1. What did Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) ask Allah when he saw the bones in the water? Didn't he already trust Allah?

2. What four birds did Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) train?

3. What happened when Prophet Ibrāhīm (ʿa) called his birds from the mountains?

4. What lesson can we learn from this story?

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Duʿā: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

InshāʾAllāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Qurʾān: The holy book of Muslims

SubḥanAllāh: All Glory and Praise belongs to God

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʾān

Tawakkul: Reliance and trust in God

Tawfīq: Divine blessings from God that give one the opportunity and ability to thrive towards success

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.

We all know that Allah will bring back the dead on the Day of Judgment, but how? This is the same question Prophet Ibrahim (a) had for Allah. Through a beautiful example, *Prophet Ibrahim (a) and the Birds* teaches us how Allah is the giver of life, and how He will bring us all back to life!

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY

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